PEACE AGREEMENT BETWEEN BAHRAIN AND ISRAEL IN THE AMERICAN NEWSPAPERS: A PRAGMA-STYLISTIC STUDY

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Abstract

The present study is concerned with analyzing "Peace Agreement between Bahrain and Israel in the American Newspapers" pragma-stylistically. It aims at investigating the use and the frequencies of the pragmatic components, namely, politeness and Grice's maxims which are utilized by the writers of the political texts of these newspapers. A model is proposed by the study to conduct a qualitative pragma-stylistic analysis consisting of Grice's (1975) cooperative principle, Brown and Levinson's (1987) politeness strategies and Martin's(2014) figures of speech. Frequencies and percentages are also utilized to calculate the results quantitatively.

The analysis of the data shows that the pragmatic components which characterize the pragmatic style of the texts of these newspapers are the positive politeness and flouting the maxim of quality. The results reveal that implicature plays a great role in the texts of these newspapers.

1. Introduction

The term "pragma-stylistics" is an approach aims at applying the findings and methodologies of pragmatics to the concept of style in language, that is to say, the variations in usage in written and spoken language such as analyzing the language of literary texts among writers, genres and periods (Allan,2016:217).

Thus, Pragma-stylistics, being a stylistic study carried out according to the tents of pragmatics, attempts to discover, analyse and formalize the implicit meanings of utterances. It is unified, however, by its emphasis on explaining existing interpretation of texts rather than generating new readings (Mey,2009:256).

Scholars like Radford(1997), Simpson(2004), Jeffries and Mclntyre (2010) and others maintained that contemporary stylistics is a mature discipline not confined to the analysis of literary texts as it always was. Stylistics involves the analysis of non-literary texts such as scientific, political, legal texts, advertisement, etc. (Ibrahim and Waheeb,2017:62).

Therefore, the study further adds more to the fields of stylistics and pragmatics in the analysis of political discourse. To achieve this, the study aims at:
1. Identifying how the breaching of Grice's maxims in these texts achieves stylistic effects.
2. Showing how politeness strategies are stylistically utilized in these texts under study.
3. Finding out the most common used tropes that effect the style in these texts under study.

In accordance with its aims, this study hypothesizes that:
1. The maxim of quality is predominantly exploited in the texts of these newspapers.
2. The positive politeness strategy of "conveying the speaker and the hearer are cooperators" is the frequent strategy in the texts of these newspapers.
3. Overstatement may be found in the texts of these types of newspapers more than any other figures of speech.

The following procedures are adopted to achieve the above aims:
1. Interpreting the exploiting of Grice's maxims and the performing of the politeness strategies in the political texts of these American newspapers using the model established for this reason.
2. Using a mathematical approach represented by a percentage equation to calculate real numbers of the findings.

2. Pragma- Stylistics

2.1 The concept of style

The study of style surfaced in 1960s, and it has continued to attract intellectual attention from different scholars and different advantages of linguistic studies. The study of style delves into unearthing the functional value of peculiar use of expressions of language in an institutionalized societal context. The word style refers to the choice of words/expressions in a given context by a given individual, for a given purpose, and so on. Thus, studies on style have shown that style is "the selection and arrangement of linguistic features which are open to choice" (De Vito Joseph,1967:358). Consequently, the idiosyncratic way a writer presents himself or herself is an offshoot of his or her character. These choices are often determined by the intention of the language user and the audience, however successful communication is the pivot, and this is why Crystal David and Davy Derek agree that style is the "effectiveness of a mode of expression." (Crystal and Davy,1969:994).

The term "style", according to (Sanding and Selting,1997:138), refers to any kind of significant variation in writing or speaking. Style comprises literary styles such as variations of different ages, writers, types and non-literary styles like variations of newspapers or magazines, variations within the same newspaper different genres or variations in speaking. They go on to say that style is not a

judgemental term, but rather a useful tool for recognizing and unfolding various styles, the meanings
they might yield, and their relevance to a certain discourse.

2.2 stylistics

At the end of the 18th and the beginning of the 19th centuries, the art of rhetoric nearly ended and
fell in a state where scholars believed it in linguistics. But it came back in the literary debate in the
beginning of the 20th century as 'Stylistics', though, the term stylistics had been used since the early
nineteenth century. In modern times, it is "an analytical science which covers all the expressive
aspects of language as phonology, prosody, morphology, syntax and lexicology"
(Cuddon,2010:872).

Stylistics, according to Trask (1999:197), is concerned with the aesthetic uses of languages,
especially those in literature. He distinguishes between the European and English perspectives on
stylistics; for the European linguistic traditions, on the one hand, stylistics has been always regarded
as the study of the structural aspects of language in relation to their aesthetic aspects. For the
English- speaking world, on the other hand, linguistics and literary criticism are viewed separately,
neither of them paid attention to the other. However , in the recent decades, this gap has been
bridged as a number of researchers have applied theories of linguistics to explain literary works and
to investigate the aesthetic dimensions of language in general. The purpose of learning stylistics is to
find out a connection between language and artistic function (Leech & Short,2007:11). Therefore, in
analyzing literary stylistics, the relation between style, literary and aesthetic function, is typically
concerned with explaining.

Furthermore, Niazi and Gautam (2010:3) define stylistics as "the study of style used in literary and
verbal language , and the impact the writer/speaker wishes to convey to the reader/listener". It helps
to establish set of principles that can elucidate why individuals or social groups prefer this form or
expression over others from a wide range of choices. The merging between form and content in
studying literary texts is the main concern of stylistics.

Thus, according to Widdowson, stylistics would be 'the study of literary discourse from a linguistic
orientation'. He tries to take the view that what distinguishes stylistics from literary criticism on the
one hand and linguistics on the other is that 'a means of linking the two' we arguably propose that
stylistics occupies the middle ground between linguistics and literary criticism, and no purpose is to
mediate between the two. Stylistics is, therefore, a study or an area that combines both literary
criticism on the one hand and linguistics on the other as the morphological make up displays: 'style'
component relating it to literary criticism and the 'istics' components to linguistics
(Widdowson,1977:3).

Stylistics evaluates a literary text precisely. Descriptive linguistics offers stylistic analysis of a text
at phonological, syntactic and semantic levels of linguistic description. The communicative power
and connotative significance of these isolated linguistic items and structures is assessed objectively.
John Lyons says that style implies "those components and features of a literary composition which
give to it individual stamp, marking it as the work of a particular author and producing a certain
effect on the readers" (Lyon,1981:20).

In practice, stylistics has split itself into literary and non-literary, although the approaches used in
either case are highly based on linguistic observations and terminology. Leech and Short (1981), for
example, though attaching great importance to the concept of style as choice, would regard

practically any linguistic study of literature as stylistics. The work of Crystal and Davy (1969),which sets up useful criteria for the study of style and applies them to the study of different types of texts, such as the language of conversation, unscripted commentary, religion, newspaper reporting and legal documents, is as applicable to literary texts as to any of the types currently chosen for study. It would be reasonable to say, therefore, that the general discipline has much to offer any serious analyst of texts (ibid.:575).

According to Chapman and Clark (2014:1) stylistics is an interdisciplinary field that requires applying theories from linguistics to find out how certain texts are created, interpreted and evaluated. As a result, it unavoidably has many branches; first, because of the wide range of forms, styles and purposes of the texts which constitute the subject of research. Second, because of these texts can be examined by using various frameworks from linguistics.

The latest development of stylistics and its disciplinary nature has led to the emergence of sub-branches; linguistic stylistics, formal stylistics, feminist stylistics, functional stylistics, critical stylistics, pragmatic stylistics and cognitive stylistics (Wales,2001:4).

2.3 Figures of Speech

According to McQuarrie and Mick (1996:3), a proposition can be stated in multiple forms one of which is the utilization of figures of speech such as simile, metaphor, pun, and the like. For Abrams (1999:96), figurative language is "a conspicuous departure from what users of a language apprehended as the standard meaning of words, or else the standard order of words". The chief aim of such deviations is to bring about a unique meaning or effect. Nonetheless, figures of speech are sometimes thought of as poetic in the first place, though they are an essential component in all types of discourse.

Figures of speech were first classified in the work of the classical rhetoricians, more specifically, that of the prominent Roman figure Quintilian. In his book Institutes of Oratory, Quintilian divided rhetorical devices into two basic classes: schemes and tropes (ibid.). The word scheme came from Greek schema, meaning form or shape. It refers to the "deviation from the ordinary patterns or arrangement of words" as in rhyme, alliteration, and antithesis. Whereas a trope originally means to turn which involves "a deviation from the ordinary and principal signification of a word" (Corbett,1965:427).

Style is often associated with ornamentation. That makes sense in so far as it is a dimension associated with poetry or the use of words (in any form) so as to create some kind of aesthetic effect, shaping sensations and the meanings derived from them. However, in political rhetoric, stylistic devices such as schemes and tropes impact how an argument is perceived and understood by its audience (Martin,2014:81).

There are different types of schemes and tropes that are performed in political discourse, according to Martin's (2014) Politics and Rhetoric: A Critical Introduction, such as repetition, ellipsis forms, tricolon, overstatement, understatement, metaphor and irony…etc.

2.4 Pragmatics

Pragmatics has only recently joined the linguistic map in contrast to other branches of linguistics. In the 1970's, however, it became a significant factor in linguistic thought. Since then, pragmatics has grown as an important field of research. Pragmatics may be roughly described as the study of what

is communicated or what a speaker means apart from the linguistic meanings of the words uttered(Allot,2010:6).

In order to understand what pragmatics is, it is necessary that the concept of semiotics be explained. Charles Morris (1938) (quoted by Levinson,1983:1) describes pragmatics "as the scientific study of the properties of signaling systems, whether natural or artificial." In general, semiotics refers to the study within philosophy of sign and symbol systems. In this sense, the term semiotics may be just applied to the study of artificial signs such as traffic lights, or of signs used in animal communication, as well as to human language. In practice, however, work in pragmatics has mostly been performed on human language, or "natural language" as logicians are accustomed to call it. According to Rudolf Carnap (1942,1955), semiotics is divisible into three distinct areas:

(1) Syntactics or syntax which is the study of signs in relation to one another;

(2) Semantics which is the study of signs in relation to their so-called designata or what they refer to;

(3) Pragmatics which is the study of signs or sign systems in relation to their users.

Thus, pragmatics, as Crystal (2008:379) notes, is the study of language from the perspective of users, especially of the choices they create, the constraints they encounter when utilizing language in social interaction, and the influences that their use of language exert on the other participants in an act of communication. According to Levinson (1983:24), pragmatics is the study of "ability of language users to pair sentences in the contexts in which they would be appropriate."

Semantics according to Leech and Thomas (1990:173) deals with meaning as a dyadic relation between a form and its meaning, whereas pragmatics has to do with meaning as a triadic relation— the relation that holds among the form, meaning and context. So Pragmatics is "a relatively newer area of linguistics than semantics consisting a cluster of approaches which cohere around the preoccupation with the contextual constraints on meaning" (Finch,2000:149).

According to Yule (1996:3), pragmatics is interested in the study of meaning as conveyed via a speaker and interpreted via a listener. Thus, it can be said that pragmatic analyses are more concerned with what people convey through using certain utterances than with what the words in those utterances may mean in isolation.

Yule (ibid) also focuses on context and how it influences what is said. It requires a consideration of how speakers arrange what they want to say in accordance with whom they are talking to, where, when, and under what circumstances. Pragmatics is the study of contextual meaning. He also describes pragmatics as a study related to the speaker's intended meaning. This type of study identifies how a great deal of what is unsaid is recognized as part of what is communicated. We might say that it is the investigation of invisible meaning. "Pragmatics is the study of how more gets communicated than is said."

Invisible here comprises types of meaning that are non-literal, context-dependent, inferential, and/or non-truth-conditional (Birner,2013:4). As such, pragmatics deals with rather illusive types of meaning (i.e. ones that are not found in dictionaries and which may vary from context to context). The same utterance will mean different things in different contexts, and will even mean different things to different people. Consider the following sentence: **"The teacher is coming ".**

Such a sentence will yield different utterances in different contexts. Consequently, it can be (a) simply a statement (a pupil telling his classmates that their teacher is on the way to the classroom), (b) advice (keep quiet!), (c) a warning (stop making noises lest you should be punished by the teacher), (d) a threat (if you do not stop making troubles, I will tell the teacher about it!), etc.

2.4.1 Cooperative Principle

In "logic and conversation", the philosopher Paul Grice presented a general theory of conversation plus a set of maxims that speakers would typically follow in order to explain the processes by which people perceive the discrepancies between "what is said" and "what is meant" (conversational implication) (Grice,1975:45). The general principle is called the Cooperative Principle, it runs as follows:

Make your contribution such as is required, at the stage at which it occurs, by the accepted purpose or direction of the talk exchange in which you are engaged.

The Cooperative Principle states that while communicating, speakers attempt to cooperate with one another, otherwise communication would not be possible (Thomas,1995:61). Furthermore, Levinson (1983:102) explains, there are supporting rules of the cooperative principle that define how participants are to act in conversation to "converse in a highly effective, reasonable, co-operative way", which clearly indicates that speaking sincerely, relevantly, and simply or clearly, while presenting adequate information at the same time. The conversational conventions, or maxims which support this principle are as follows:

a. Maxim of Quantity: Make your contribution as informative as required, which means that not more information nor less than it is required, so it is related with the amount of information. It has two sub-maxims:
1. Make your contribution as informative as is required.
2. Do not make your contribution more informative than is required (Levinson,1983:102).

b. Maxim of Quality: Seek for information that which you think it is true and leave that which you think it is untrue or that which you do not have evidence. This consists of the following maxims:
1. Do not say what you believe to be false.
2. Do not say that for which you lack adequate evidence (Grice, 1989:27).
c. Maxim of Relevance: Make your contribution relevant, which means you must join what you want to say with what you have already talked about.

d. Maxim of Manner: Be perspicuous and make your contribution clear and not vague, brief and orderly. This maxim is related to the way of telling rather than what information is being told. It (ibid:46) includes the sub-maxims:

1. Avoid obscurity of expression.
2. Avoid ambiguity.
3. Be brief (avoid unnecessary prolixity).
4. Be orderly .

2.4.1.1 Observance of Grice's Maxims:
Speakers may observe all the maxims as in the following example:
Husband: **Where is my watch?**
Wife: **It is on the table in the hall?**

Thomas (1995:64) reveals that the wife has answered the question clearly (Manner), truthfully (Quality) with right amount of information (Quantity), and satisfying the goal of the question (Relation).

2.4.1.2 Non-Observance of Grice's Maxims:

The non-observance of the maxims results in addition to the literal meaning of an utterance, an extra meaning, which is a conversational implicature (Brown and Yule, 1983:32). According to Jason and Wareing (1999:28) one of the politician's goals is to persuade the audience of the truth of the politician's claims, which is accomplished by implicature.

2.4.1.2.1 Flouting Grice's Maxims

Thomas(1995:65) affirms that a flout occurs when a speaker blatantly fails to observe a maxim for the purpose of prompting the hearer to look for a possible interpretation which is different from, or in addition to, the conveyed meaning (generating implicature). Brown and Levinson (1987:220) state that the process of flouting can be achieved by many literary and linguistic phenomena:

1. The maxim of quantity can be flouted by the use of: understatement, overstatement, and tautology.
2. The maxim of quality can be flouted by the use of: irony, metaphor, and rhetorical questions.
3. The maxim of manner can be flouted by the use of: ambiguity, vagueness, and ellipsis.
4. The maxim of relation is flouted in no figure of speech. It is flouted by talking about irrelevant topics to the current situation and sometimes a comic sense can be achieved by this flouting.

2.4.1.2.2 Violating Grice's Maxims

According to Grice (1975:49) the speaker violates a maxim when s/he will be responsible for misleading the hearer to have such implicature. Many individuals tend to tell untruth and break the maxims of Grice's cooperative principle when they communicate in the real life situations, they even do multiple violations for lying purposes (ibid:45).

The flouting is different from the violation of maxims. The convert takes place to bring the listener to misunderstanding, the overt of maxims on the other hand, happens when speakers intentionally come to the end in order to apply the maxims for persuading the listeners to infer the implicit meaning of the utterances and hit the implicature (Levinson,1983:105).

2.4.2 Politeness Principle (Brown and Levinson's Politeness Strategies)

Politeness strategies are the means by which speakers minimize the risk of a special act threatening the listener's face, or they are the oral speech that prevents the abuse of the listener's face and persuades the listener's desires (van Dijk,1997:50).

2.4.2.1 Bald On-Record

This strategy is more precise than the others that speaker employs to carry out the act. It means that the speaker carries out the face-threatening act in a precise and non-ambiguous manner (Huang,2012:213). Since the speaker has little control over the hearer, this strategy embarrasses him and will make him uncomfortable. In certain situation, the bald on-record strategy is employed: For instance, when the speaker and the hearer have a close relationship. Secondly, in situations where there is only a slight threat to the hearer's face (such as when demanding, suggesting, or offering), that corresponds to the hearer's interest. Thirdly, in situations where the speaker is significantly more powerful than the hearer or where the speaker may gain the support of the audience to destroy the hearer's face without sacrificing his own (Brown and Levinson,1987:68).

2.4.2.2 Positive Politeness

Positive politeness is concerned with the positive face of the hearer. It encompasses three broad mechanisms with fifteen strategies that are aimed at minimizing face threatening of both the positive self-face of the speaker and the hearer's positive face. According to positive politeness, the speaker is concerned with the hearer's wants, for instance, by treating him as a member of an in-group, a friend, an individual whose wants and personality traits are known and liked. The probability of a face threatening act is decreased by assuring that the speaker wants at least some of the hearer's wishes, such as when the speaker considers the hearer to be close to him in important ways, such as in terms of in-group privileges, responsibilities, and aspirations, or by suggesting that S likes the hearer so that the face threatening act does not indicate a negative assessment of the hearer's face (ibid.:70).

2.4.2.2.1 Claiming common ground

This broad mechanism has eight outcomes or strategies by which the speaker claims "common ground" with the hearer by showing that the speaker and the hearer both members of the same group of people who share specific wants, including goals and values. There are three ways to make this claim: **first**, the speaker can express that some want of the hearer's is admirable or fascinating to him. **Second**, the speaker may emphasize common group membership, emphasizing that both the speaker and the hearer belong to a group of people who have similar desires. **Third**, when the speaker asserts a shared perspective with the hearer without mentioning in-group membership (ibid.:103).

2.4.2.2.2 Conveying that the speaker and the hearer are cooperators

Brown and Levinson (1987:125) define the second major class of positive-politeness strategies as conveying that the speaker and the addressee are cooperatively engaged in relevant interaction. If the speaker and the hearer cooperate, they will have common interests, and may share the same goals in some domain, resulting in face threatening act redress to the hearer's face.

2.4.2.2.3 Fulfill the hearer's want

This is the final positive-politeness strategy, in which the speaker tries to specifically redress the hearer's face by satisfying some of the hearer's desires, thereby implying that he (the speaker) wants the hearer's desires for the hearer, in some particular respects.

2.4.2.3 Negative Politeness

Negative politeness, according to Brown and Levinson(ibid.:70), is a collection of strategies aimed primarily at satisfying or redressing "the hearer's negative face, his fundamental desire to maintain claims of territory and self-determination". Negative politeness, therefore, is essentially avoidance-based or evasion strategy. Negative-politeness strategies are realized when the speaker recognizes and respects the hearer's negative-face preferences and will not interfere with the hearer's freedom of action. As a result, "negative politeness is characterized by self-effacement, formality and inhibition, with attention to very restricted aspects of the hearer's self-image, centered on his desire to be unimpeded."

2.4.2.4 Off-record Politeness

By employing this strategy, the speaker can take the advantage of getting credit for being diplomatic and non-coercive. Second, he can evade the charge for the possibly face-damaging interpretations. Moreover, he can give the hearer an opportunity to be seen to care for the speaker. In other words, he can test the hearer's reaction indirectly (ibid.:71). A communicative act is done off record if it is

conducted in such a way that it is not possible to attribute only one specific communicative intention to the act. As a result, if the speaker wants to do a face threatening act, but doesn't want to take the responsibility for doing it, he can do it off record.

3. The Eclectic Model of Analysis

The present study adopts an eclectic model for its own analysis. An eclectic model is a term which denotes that the researcher has used more than one approach in his own analytical part in a way that suits his data selection and the nature of the data selected model. From all the aforementioned, a proposed model can be constructed to facilitate analyzing the data of the current study. The model is consists of Grice's (1975) Cooperative Principle, Brown and Levinson's (1987) Politeness Principle and Martin's (2014) use of figures of speech. It is as shown in the figure below:
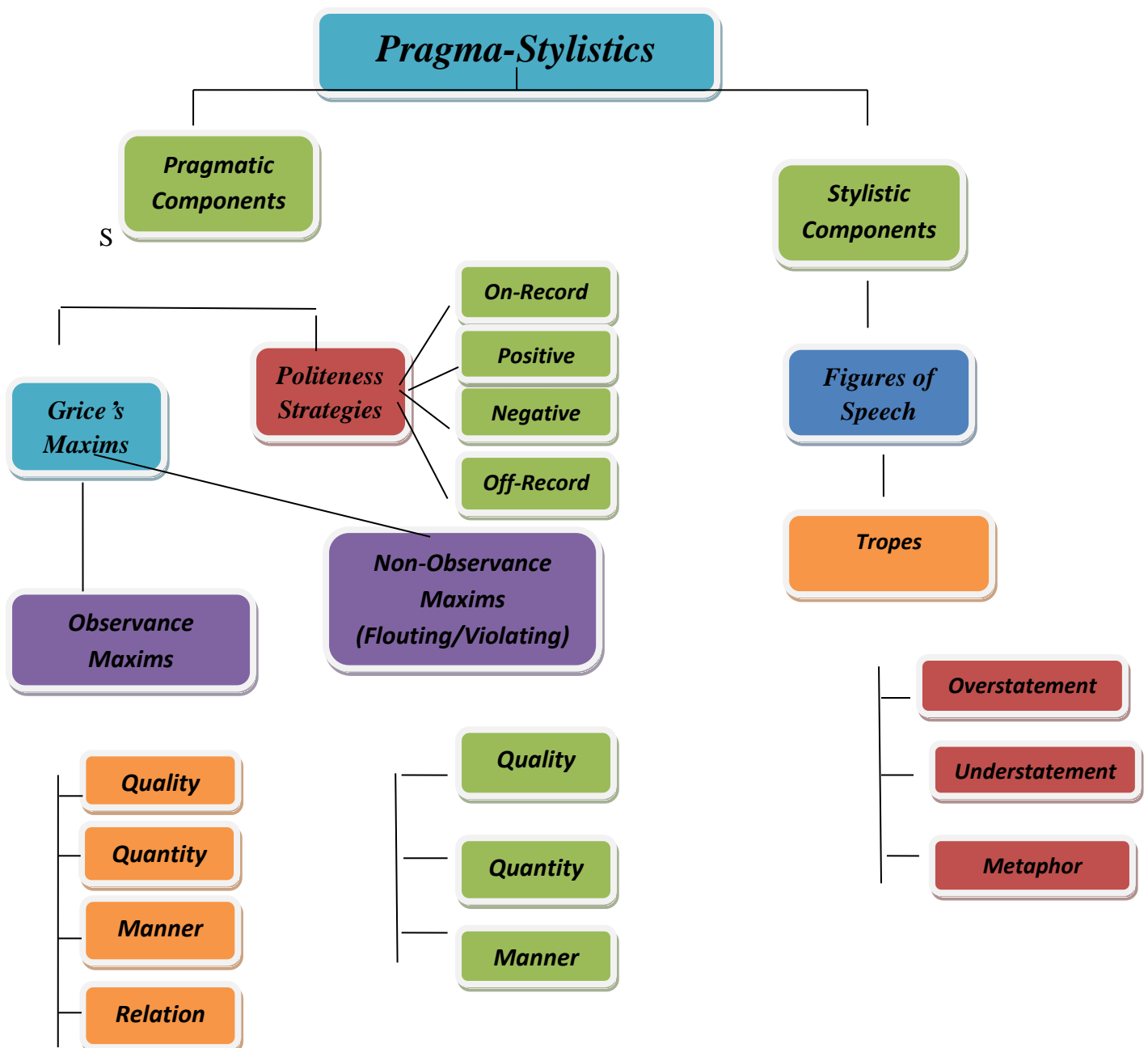
Figure (1) The Pragma-Stylistic Model of Analysis

4. Data Collection

The data of the present study are collected from three extracts of American newspapers, which are randomly selected to be representatives for the whole selected data "Peace Agreement between Bahrain and Israel in the American Newspapers"; an extract from "The New York Times", an extract from "The USA Today" and an extract from "The Washington Post" .

4.1 The Qualitative Pragmatic Analysis

4.1.1 "The New York Times" Extract Analysis

"Bahrain Will Normalize Relations With Israel, in Deal Brokered by Trump" By Michael Crowley and David M. Halbfinger

Published Sept. 11, 2020Updated Nov. 11, 2020

WASHINGTON — President Trump announced on Friday that Bahrain would establish full diplomatic relations with Israel, following the United Arab Emirates, in another sign of shifting Middle East dynamics that are bringing Arab nations closer to Israel.

Bahrain's move was not unexpected: The tiny Persian Gulf kingdom was widely seen as the low-hanging fruit to be picked if all went well in the aftermath of the Emiratis' announcement, analysts said. Bahrain, strategically important as the home port for the U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet, had already opened its airspace to new commercial passenger flights between Tel Aviv and Abu Dhabi; Secretary of State Mike Pompeo visited the region last month in an effort to close the deal.

On Friday, Mr. Kushner called the Bahrain agreement "a historic breakthrough for the president and also for the world." Mr. Trump boasted that "things are happening in the Middle East that nobody thought was even possible to think about." Acknowledging that the agreements did not come from out of the blue, Mr. Netanyahu said they "were made through hard work behind the scenes for years" but credited Mr. Trump for providing "important help."

    A. Cooperative Principle:
In the first paragraph the "Quality" maxim is violated by the writers by using overstatement trope as in the expression "full diplomatic", which overstates the description of the relation between Bahrain and Israel. An overstatement is a tropic figure of speech that sheds more light on one specific feature of a particular object. This overstating expression invites the readers to create implicature on the writers speech, the other three maxims are being observed by the writers by being informative, clear and relevant. In the second paragraph the "Quality" maxim is flouted by employing the understatement trope as in the expression "tiny Persian Gulf kingdom", which means that the writers try to ease the situation or refer to the object to be less important; also, the writers flout the maxim of "Manner" by describing the tiny kingdom in a metaphorical way through utilizing "low-hanging fruit". The other two maxims are followed by the writers. In the third paragraph the "Quality" maxim is violated by using the overstatement trope "hard" and the maxim of "Manner" is flouted by using vague expression "behind the scenes", which invites the readers to create implicature; whereas the other two maxims are followed by the writers.

B. Politeness Principle:
In the first paragraph, the writers convey that the writers and the readers are cooperators by giving reasons, such as " shifting Middle East dynamics that are bringing Arab nations closer to Israel", which is a positive politeness strategy. Also there is "Off-record politeness" strategy by using the overstating trope. In the second paragraph, the writers also employ "Negative" politeness strategy by being impersonate through using the passive voice, as in "was widely seen"; and "Off-record" politeness strategy by describing the tiny Kingdom metaphorically; also the writers convey that the writers and the readers are cooperators by giving reasons, as in "Bahrain, important as the port for U.S. Navy's Fifth Fleet". In the third paragraph, the writers claim common ground with the readers by quoting others' speech without modification, which is a positive politeness strategy as in "a historic breakthrough..", "things are happening in the Middle East that nobody thought.." and "were made through hard work..". The writers also employ "Negative" politeness strategy by being impersonate through using the passive voice, as in "were made".

4.1.2 "The USA Today" Extract Analysis

"Israel signs accords with United Arab Emirates and Bahrain at White House ceremony"
Michael Collins and Deirdre Shesgreen   **USA TODAY** published 11:26 a.m. ET SEPT. 15, 2020.

"We're here this afternoon to change the course of history," Trump said at the beginning of the ceremony. "Together these agreements will serve as the foundation for a comprehensive peace across the entire region."

Netanyahu called the agreements "a pivot of history" that "heralds a new dawn of peace." The foreign ministers from Bahrain and the UAE were equally sweeping in their praise for the pacts.

"For too long, the Middle East has been set back by conflict and mistrust, causing untold destruction and thwarting the potential of generations of our best and brightest," said Abdullatif bin Rashid Al Zayani, Bahrain's foreign affairs minister. "Now, I'm convinced. We have the opportunity to change that."

A. Cooperative Principle:
In the first paragraph, the writers violate the "Quality" maxim by using overstatement trope "entire region", whereas the other maxims are observed. In the second one, the maxim of "Manner" is flouted by utilizing metaphorical expressions such as "pivot of history" and "dawn of peace". In the third one, the writers violate the maxim of "Quality" by employing overstatement trope "too long"; also the maxim of "Quantity" is being violated by being more informative than it is required, as in using the title before the name of the Bahraini foreign minister, whereas the other two maxims are observed.

B. Politeness Principle:
In the first paragraph, the writers employ positive politeness by claiming common ground with the readers through using quoted speech without modification as in "we're here.." and "Together these agreements…", and by conveying that the writers and the readers are cooperators by including the writers and the readers in the same activity through using plural pronouns such as "we" and expressions like "together". In the second paragraph, the writers using "Off-record" politeness strategy by using metaphorical expressions. In the third one, they claim common ground with the

readers by quoting others' speech without modification, as in "For too long…" and "Now, I'm convinced..", also, they convey that the writers and the readers are cooperators and including in the same activity by using plural pronouns such as "we". The writers also employ "Negative" politeness strategy by being impersonate through using the passive voice, as in "has been set back".

4.1.3 "The Washington Post" Extract Analysis

"Bahrain's diplomatic agreement with Israel is a building block toward Middle East stability." By: David Ignatius, a columnist   Sept. 11,2020 at 6:51 p.m. ET

With Bahrain's announcement Friday that it will join the United Arab Emirates in establishing diplomatic relations with Israel, dominoes are falling in the Middle East in the right direction for a change.
Bahrain's decision to join the UAE is a second solid gain for the Trump administration's efforts to bridge the gap between Israel and Arab states.
Jared Kushner, the President's son-in-law and Senior Adviser on the Middle East, said during an interview that the move shows that "a lot of the leaders in the region are tired of waiting for the Palestinians" before recognizing the reality of Israel.

 A. Cooperative Principle:
In the first and the second paragraphs, the writers abide by Grice's cooperative principle and its four maxims by being truthful, informative, clear and relevant. In the third paragraph, the writers violate the "Quantity" maxim by being informative more than it is required through mentioning "Jared Kushner", which is a name and his title "the president's son-in-law and senior adviser on the Middle East"; and violate the "Quality" maxim by employing overstatement trope "a lot of", which invites the readers to generate conversational implicature.

 B. Politeness Principle:
In the first and the second paragraphs, the writers perform positive politeness strategy by conveying that the writers and the readers are cooperators by giving reasons to the readers about Bahrain's announcement to join UAE, such as "it will join the United Arab Emirates in establishing diplomatic relations with Israel" and "to bridge the gap between Israel and Arab states" respectively. In the third paragraph, the writers claim common ground with the readers by avoiding the modification of the quoted speech, as in "a lot of the leaders in the region.." and they employ "Off-record" politeness strategy by performing overstating expression "a lot of", which invites the readers to create conversational implicature.

4.2 The Quantitative Analysis
Depending on the qualitative analysis which is conducted in the previous sections, below is the quantitative analysis which is aimed to solidify the results statistically.
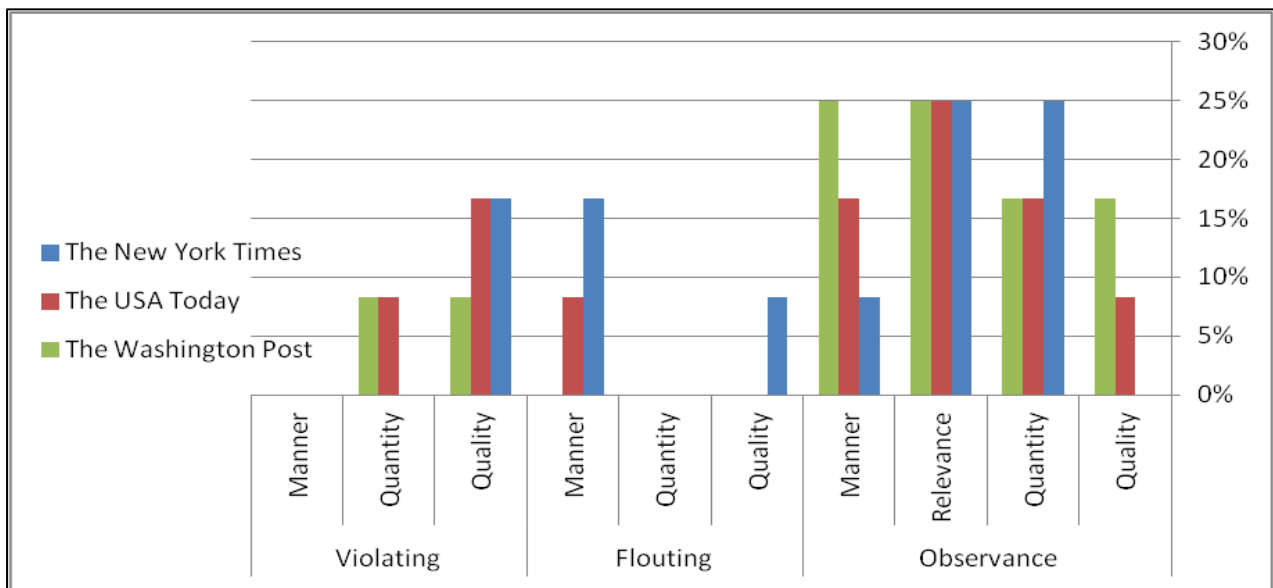
4.2.1 Conversational Maxims Analysis
Concerning the Cooperative Principle of Grice and its four maxims, Table (1) and Figure (2) show the percentage of the writers' observance and non-observance these maxims in the selected American newspapers; the Relevance Maxim is highly followed in all types of newspapers(The New York Times, The USA Today and The Washington Post) with the percentage of (25%) for each. The Quantity maxim comes in the second step, and then comes the maxim of Manner. In relation to the flouting of the four maxims in the texts of the three selected newspapers, the statistical analysis shows that the maxim of Manner is highly exploited by the writers of these newspapers as it scores (16.66%) in "The New York Times" and (8.33%) in "The USA Today".

On the other hand, the Quality maxim is highly violated in the three selected newspapers as the writers violate the Quality maxim in "The New York Times" and "The USA Today" with the percentage of (16.66%) for each of them, whereas the writers in "The Washington Post" violate the Quality maxim with the percentage of (8.33%).

Table (1): Conversational Maxims in the Texts of the Selected Newspapers

Cooperative Principle			The New York Times		The USA Today		The Washington Post	
			F	P	F	P	F	P
Observance		**Quality**	0	0%	1	8.33%	2	16.66%
		Quantity	3	25%	2	16.66%	2	16.66%
		Relevance	3	25%	3	25%	3	25%
		Manner	1	8.33%	2	16.66%	3	25%
Non-observance	**Flouting**	**Quality**	1	8.33%	0	0%	0	0%
		Quantity	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
		Manner	2	16.66%	1	8.33%	0	0%
	Violating	**Quality**	2	16.66%	2	16.66%	1	8.33%
		Quantity	0	0%	1	8.33%	1	8.33%
		Manner	0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Total number			12	100%	12	100%	12	100%

**Figure (2): Conversational Maxims in the Texts of the Selected Newspapers**

4.2.2 Politeness Strategies Analysis

With reference to Politeness strategies, Table (2) and Figure (3) show that three super-strategies of politeness are performed in the discourse of these three selected newspapers. Positive Politeness, Negative Politeness and Off-record Politeness are employed in these selected newspapers.

The super-strategy of conveying the speaker and the hearer are cooperators, which is Positive Politeness strategy, is highly performed in the texts of these selected American newspapers with the percentage of (50%) in "The Washington Post" and with the percentage of (37.50%) in "The New York Times" and (33.33%) in "The USA Today". The super-strategy of Negative Politeness is highly performed in "The New York Times" with percentage of (25%), whereas the super-strategy of Off-record politeness is highly performed in "The New York Times" and in "The Washington Post" with the percentage of (25%) for each.

Table (2) Politeness Strategies in the Texts of the Selected Newspapers

| Politeness Strategies		The New York Times		The USA Today		The Washington Post	
		F	P	F	P	F	P
Bald on record		0	0%	0	0%	0	0%
Positive Politeness	**Claim common ground**	1	12.50%	4	44.44%	1	25%
	Convey S &H are cooperators	3	37.50%	3	33.33%	2	50%
Negative Politeness		2	25%	1	11.11%	0	0%
Off-record		2	25%	1	11.12%	1	25%
Total number		8	100%	9	100%	4	100%
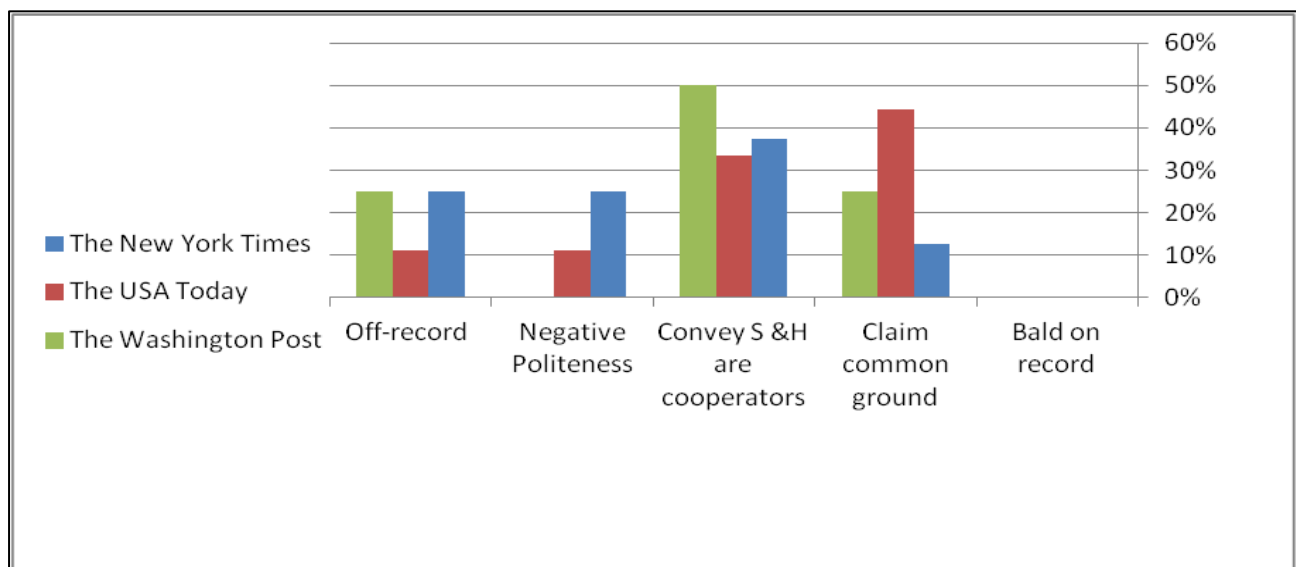
Figure (3) Politeness Strategies in the Texts of the Selected Newspapers

4.2.3 Figures of Speech Analysis

Concerning the tropes that are performed in the texts of these three selected American newspapers, the statistical analysis demonstrates that the trope of overstatement is the most frequently used trope. The overstatement trope is performed with the percentage of (100%) by the writers in "The Washington Post" and with the percentage of (50%) in "The New York Times" and in "The USA Today", whereas the trope of metaphor is performed with the percentage of (50%) in "The USA Today" and with the percentage of (25%) in "The New York Times". The above findings are shown in Table (3) and Figure (4) below:

Table (3): Figures of Speech in the Texts of the Selected Newspapers

Figures of Speech		The New York Times		The USA Today		The Washington Post	
		F	P	F	P	F	P
Tropes	Overstatement	2	50%	2	50%	1	100%
	Understatement	1	25%	0	0%	0	0%
	Metaphor	1	25%	2	50%	0	0%
Total number		4	100%	4	100%	1	100%
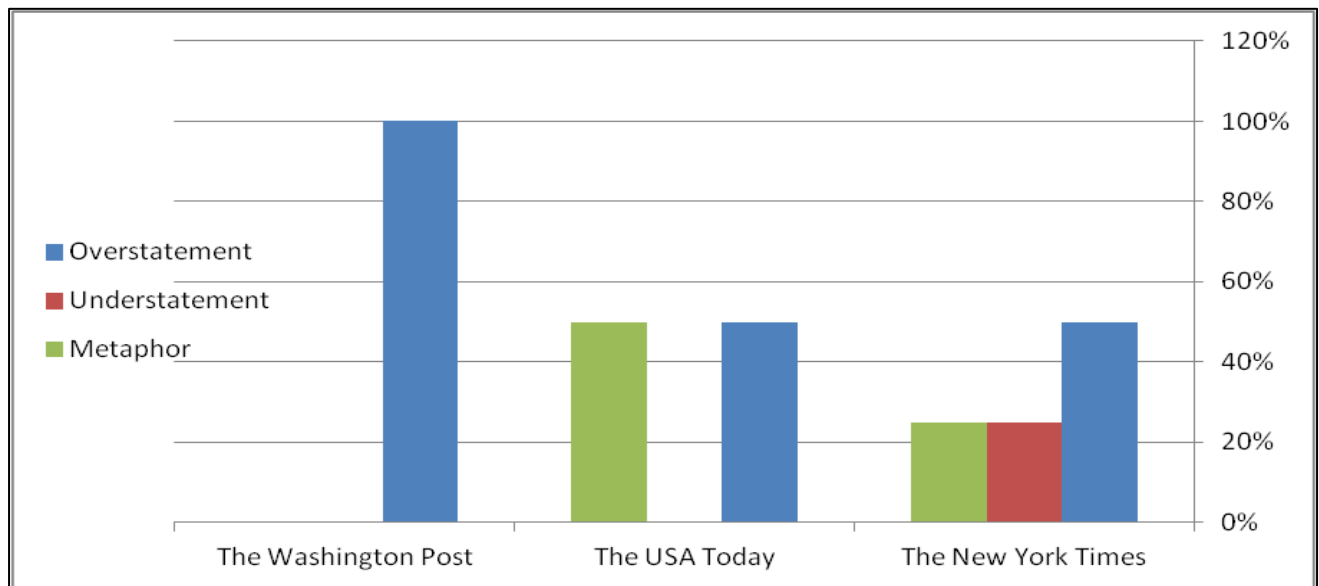
Figure (4): Figures of Speech in the Texts of the Selected Newspapers

5. Conclusions

On the basis of the analysis conducted by this study and the findings arrived at, the following conclusions have been drawn accordingly to check the validity of the hypotheses of the present study:

1. The first hypothesis which indicates "The maxim of quality is predominantly exploited in the texts of these newspapers" is proved as shown in Table (1) and Figure (2). Implicature plays a significant role in the selected data of the three types of American newspapers as it features the writers' language and style. The blatant breaching of "Quality Maxim" is highly employed in the data as the writer intends not to say the truth to invite his/her readers to work out an implied meaning which is stronger than it is conveyed directly. Overstatement, understatement and metaphor are some of the strategies of the pragmatic style of these selected American newspapers.

2. The second hypothesis which states "The positive politeness strategy of 'conveying the speaker and the hearer are cooperators' is the frequent strategy in the texts of these newspapers, is validated as explicated in Table (2) and Figure (3). The positive politeness strategy of "conveying the speaker and the hearer are cooperators" is highly employed due to the use of the personal plural pronouns as tools to build solidarity and maintain support through "including the speaker and the hearer in the same activity".

3. The third hypothesis which reads "Overstatement may be found in the texts of these types of newspapers more than any other figures of speech" is verified in Table (3) and Figure (4). In using the overstatement trope, the speaker/writer makes the subject as more important or as an expression referring to exaggeration and emphasis. The use of figures of speech is highly useful for the speakers/writers to explain and to make their phrases powerful in meaning. Furthermore, figures of speech are mostly used by speakers/writers to imply meanings behind the real meaning of words and phrases particularly to convey a remarkable effect on the hearers/readers or to make a notable sentence that is easy to be recalled.

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